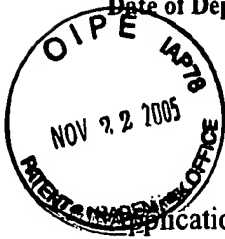


Express Mail Label No.: EV781042458US

Date of Deposit: November 22, 2005

Attorney Docket Number: 18921-001 NATL



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application Number : 09/936,095 Confirmation No. 9297

Applicant : Stemple, *et al.*

Filed : June 6, 2002

TC/A.U. : 1637

Examiner : Teresa E. Strzelecka

Docket No. : 18921-001 Natl

Customer No. : 35437

For : **A METHOD FOR DIRECT NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCING**

**MAIL STOP AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION  
DATED MAY 23, 2005**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed May 23, 2005 in the above-identified application, Applicants submit this Amendment and Response under 37 C.F.R. §1.116. A Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time, up to and including November 23, 2005, and the necessary fee are enclosed. Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of this after-final Amendment and accompanying papers in the application.

**Amendments to the Specification** begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.

**Conclusion** begins on page 10 of this paper.